the Nation

Volume 2, No. 3 • January 20, 1995
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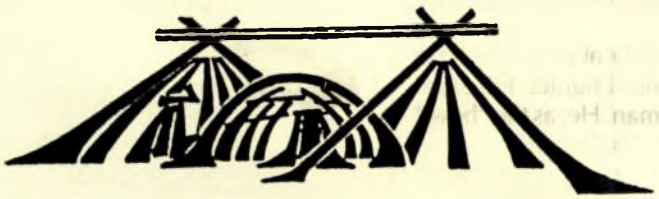

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To the *Gazette*:

I was upset to learn of the ignorance of *Montreal Gazette* Outdoors columnist George Gruenefeld's opinion piece on January 6. It showed a serious lack of knowledge of both the laws of Canada and Quebec, but also that of Native culture and lifestyles.

It concerned the Huron First Nations people continuing their traditional pursuits, namely hunting. In the article, Gruenefeld questions what type of message the provincial government is sending by allowing the Huron to hunt "out of season" and giving them one week of the yearly non-Native hunting season. He asks what the government is trying to tell the non-Native hunter: Is he is a second-class citizen or will he get second priority?

Articles and opinions like this seem to be popping up all over the place as intolerance to Native lifestyles grows. Hunting as a means of cultural integrity is not making other people second-class citizens. While I cannot talk for the Huron or other First Nations peoples, I know in the Cree First Nations all Crees think of themselves as hunters. For us the lifestyle includes not only sustenance hunting but is an integral part of Creeness. It is our bond with the land. It is a time of sharing. A portion of the hunt going to Elders is a very real way that we keep in touch with not only our past and culture but also how we continue to build upon that bond with the land.

In the harvest of wildlife in over 5,000 years, no animal has been made extinct through our actions. To the Crees, the animals give themselves to us. If you disrespect an animal you will have bad luck in your hunting. The bear has put his paws over your eyes in the hunt, the Crees say. You may return to the animals' good favor only after you show respect for a period of time.

With this respect we have developed a system of wildlife management unparalleled in the western world. Each trapline has a tallyman. He is an experienced hunter. His experience and knowledge passed down to him by the previous talleyman. He, as the "boss," decides who hunts and how much is harvested of any type of animal in the land under his care. As he trains new hunters he looks for that special person, the one who will succeed him later in life. The one who can look at the land as a whole and say this animal must not be hunted as it will affect other inter-linked populations, including man. The system of harvesting was sustainable and very much a part of Cree culture.

In this way, hunting for the Crees is not in the same category as non-Native sport hunting. It isn't a special privilege but rather a serious responsibility. These hunting and harvesting rights are in the James Bay Agreement and other treaties that exist today.

Yes, Gruenefeld and other non-Native hunters might have all their equipment seized and be hauled into court for doing what Crees and other First Nations peoples do all year-round. But hunting is not an important component of your culture. While you know you aren't second-class citizens, I do believe you should have second priority as your need is not as great as ours. I think that allocating a week of the controlled hunt in the Laurentides exclusively to the Huron shows remarkable change and sensitivity on the part of the Quebec government to Native culture.

I, for one, am glad to see the Quebec government shying away from the "traditional" governmental practices of assimilation.

BY WILL NICHOLLS

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COVER PHOTO:
Hilda Diamond preparing moose nostrils.
Taken by Boyce Richardson.

JANUARY 20, 1995

WILLIAM NICHOLLS

Christmas party at Montreal Native Friendship Centre.

FUNDING CUTS WOULD BE A BLOW

Well, I'm sure you've all heard about a "confidential" document suggesting a phase out of federal funding for Native Friendship Centres across Canada. These proposed cutbacks would undoubtably damage the urban Aboriginal community and ability to function as a whole.

There are many arguments to properly oppose these cutbacks. For example, there would be an increased need of social services by Aboriginals. Most of these services will not be able to properly facilitate the needs of the Aboriginals living outside their communities if the cutbacks are made.

Another point worth mentioning is the loss of jobs that will occur if funding is cut, as there are about 100 core-funded Friendship Centres that would be affected. The jobs and training the Friendship Centres offer through their programs are responsible for the development of Aboriginal leaders of today and tomorrow. The future of the urban Aboriginal is in the hands of the Friendship Centre movement.

These points are fine and dandy; they get right down to business. But what is the Friendship Centre movement all about? I remember two years ago when the first cutbacks were introduced to the centres. As a result most centres were unable to keep their doors open after business hours or on weekends; the centres' ability to be "friendly" was put to the test.

The Friendship Centre is an urban Aboriginal institution and is needed to coordinate the community spiritually and to harmonize the lives of people living away from home. Taking away the Friendship Centres would be a crippling step for our people.

From a youth perspective the cuts come as another blow to our movement. For the past few years youth have wanted to take part in the organizational and leadership processes of the Friendship Centres. We are now slowly being invited into this circle of knowledge. Being accepted as equals has been an upward struggle. It is crucial that we, as Aboriginal youth, be heard, for we are the future and consequently any amount of cuts threaten our voice.

These proposed cuts are another example of the government offering one hand out to Aboriginals and striking out with the other. It's very obvious that the government is unaware of the potential of a fully funded Friendship Centre.

As you can see, if the proposed cutbacks are put in place they would be a step backward for us as a people. We must confront the issue by writing letters to Parliament, by speaking out, by acknowledging its existence. If we don't rally together and save our Friendship Centres, life in the city will be less than friendly.

Jarrod Miller currently sits on the Odawa Native Friendship Centre's board of directors in Ottawa as a youth representative. He is also a youth representative on the board of the Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres.

BY JARROD MILLER

the Nation

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First Nations veterans on European Tour '92 at the Canadian War Cemetery, Holland

Moose Factory vets reject compensation offer

BY PAUL M. RICKARD

They fought under the Canadian flag in World War II and a group of war veterans in Moose Factory has fought the government for 50 years, only to be slighted once again.

Under the Veterans Land Act, anyone who fought in World War II was entitled to three acres of land. But Native veterans in Moose Factory lost their allotments when the government created the Moose Factory reserve in 1956. Under the Indian Act, no Native can own land, which resulted in the veterans losing their land.

In mid-December, the government of Canada offered each of the 16 veterans and their families $4,000 in compensation. The settlement was immediately rejected by the veterans, who felt affronted by the offer.

"It's insulting," said Emily Faries, spokesperson for the Moose Cree Veterans Claims Committee. "As children of these men who have gone to sacrifice their lives, we thought it was an insult. And everybody felt like that when they saw the settlement."

The committee was established last fall by children of the veterans to speak on behalf of their fathers. Any work done is under the direction of the veterans.

"All the time I was growing up I used to hear about veterans' lands. But it wasn't until we as children of veterans became educated that we realized our fathers were ripped off," Faries added.

After the war, Veteran Affairs passed on responsibility for many Native veterans across Canada to Indian Affairs. This was done under the assumption that Indian Affairs would ensure they would receive their land allotments. That didn't happen.

In 1992, the Moose Factory First Nation put in a claim submission on behalf on the veterans to the federal government. On December 12, government officials visited the veterans in Moose Factory to present the offer. It was rejected the same day.

Ottawa offered the veterans $100,000, with each veteran receiving $4,000 for the lost land plus money for legal costs. Not only was there not enough money, but the package was offered to the Moose Factory First Nation, not the veterans themselves.

"This whole issue is between the veterans and the government," said Emily Faries. "Indian Affairs is trying to make the First Nation responsible for the veterans. But in the veterans' opinion, it's the responsibility of Indian Affairs because they're the ones who made the mistake," she added.

Indian Affairs has always claimed the Canadian government has no legal obligation to the veterans, but presented the claim package anyway. Indian Affairs official Barry Dewar told *The Nation* the First Nation had to be involved because the land is part of the reserve, which means it's up to the band to help resolve the problem.

Chief Ernest Beck said the government is trying to pass off the responsibility, just as Veteran Affairs did in the past.

The Moose Cree Veterans Claims Committee is now working on its own settlement package, a different one than submitted by the band. It will be presented to the government in a few months.

"We're trying to settle this year if we can, because the veterans are dying off very quickly," said Emily Faries, whose own father passed away two years ago.

Of the 16 veterans who lost their land entitlements, only six are still alive. In the past two years, four have died.

Ojay wins world-wide praise for innovation

Ouje-Bougoumou is a leading contender to win a prestigious United Nations award for excellence in urban design.

As part of the UN's 50th birthday celebration, 50 communities from across the world are being chosen that best exemplify the values of the UN. Ouje-Bougoumou was nominated under two categories—sustainable development and human habitation. The winners will be announced by the end of January. UN sources say Ouje-Bougoumou is a favourite to win at least one award because of its innovative housing and energy programs and architecture.

Ouje-Bougoumou is a pioneer in efficient home-heating systems—the first community in North America to install a so-called district heating system. Instead of each home having its own furnace or heaters, Ouje-Bougoumou has one central boiler that burns sawdust from nearby sawmills. Underground pipes filled with hot water connect all the buildings to the boiler.

The unique heating system has earned Chief Abel Bosum speaking invitations from across North America. It also allowed the community to spend less on heating and more on things like its innovative housing program.

Instead of depending on unreliable government funds like other Cree communities, Ouje-Bougoumou used some of its settlement money to set up its own housing fund that has put it on the road to becoming self-sufficient in matters of housing.

Residents can eventually become owners of their homes by paying back half the house's construction cost. This money, combined with the interest earned by the housing fund, ensures that there'll always be money in the housing fund for future generations.

"What Ouje-Bougoumou has demonstrated is that if an Aboriginal community is given the resources with no strings attached and without any involvement by any level of government, all sorts of creative energy can be unleashed," says Paul Wertman, an advisor to Ouje-Bougoumou.

"It's a strong statement in support of self-government." —*Alex Roslin*

FIRST EVER!!

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READER'S POLL

Help *The Nation* Serve You Better!!! Answer the following questions, send this page to our offices, and you could WIN a beautiful, bound volume of 1994 *Nations*.

DRAW: FEBRUARY 28, 1995.

Please fill out only one poll per household - Please answer all questions

1. How old are you?

❑ Under 18 ❑ 18 - 24
❑ 25 - 34 ❑ 35 - 44
❑ 45 - 59 ❑ 60 and over

2. How many people of the following age groups live in your household? (please put a number from 0 to 10+ in each box)

_____Under 18 _____ 18 - 24
_____ 25 - 34 _____ 35 - 44
_____ 45 - 59 _____ 60+

3. Which region do you live in?

❑ East Coast James Bay INTERIOR
❑ East Coast James Bay COASTAL
❑ West Coast (Ontario) INTERIOR
❑ West Coast (Ontario) COASTAL
❑ Other (specify:_____)

4. What was the income of your household last year?

❑ Under $15,000
❑ $15,000 - $24,000
❑ $25,000 - $29,000
❑ $30,000 - $39,000
❑ $40,000 and over

5. How much money does your household spend on a major shopping trip?

❑ $100 - $500 ❑ $500 - $1,000
❑ $1,000 - $5,000 ❑ $5,000+

6. How many times last year did you or members of your household go shopping in the following towns? (please put a number from 0 to 20+ in each space)

_____ Chibougamau
_____ Rouyn-Noranda
_____ Val d'Or
_____ Timmins
_____ Amos
_____ North Bay
_____ Montreal
_____ Ottawa
_____ Other:_____

7. How many times in the following months does your household make major shopping trips?

_____ January - February
_____ March - April
_____ May - June
_____ July - August
_____ September - Octpber
_____ November - December

8.Is there a computer in your house? ❑ Yes ❑ No
A modem? ❑ Yes ❑ No

9. How do you rate *The Nation* as a publication overall?

❑ poor
❑ fair
❑ good
❑ excellent

10. Do you want to see more or less of the following in *the Nation*? (1= less, 2 = same, 3 = more)

_____ Education _____ Health
_____ Traditional pursuits
_____ Cree politics - local
_____ Cree politics - regional
_____ Native politics - national
_____ Economics _____ Religion
_____ Elders _____Youth
_____ Development Projects
_____ Women's Issues
_____ Sports _____ Social Issues

11. Do you want to see more or less information from the following? (1= less, 2 = same, 3 = more)

_____ School Board/Educational Authority
_____ GCCQ, CRA/ Muskegowuk Council
_____ Your Local First Nation
_____ Health and Social Services
_____ Economic Entities
_____ Your Trappers' Association

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13. IF QUEBEC SEPARATES FROM CANADA, WHAT DO YOU THINK AS A JAMES BAY CREE YOU SHOULD DO?

- Stay with Quebec
- Stay with Canada
- Form an independent country

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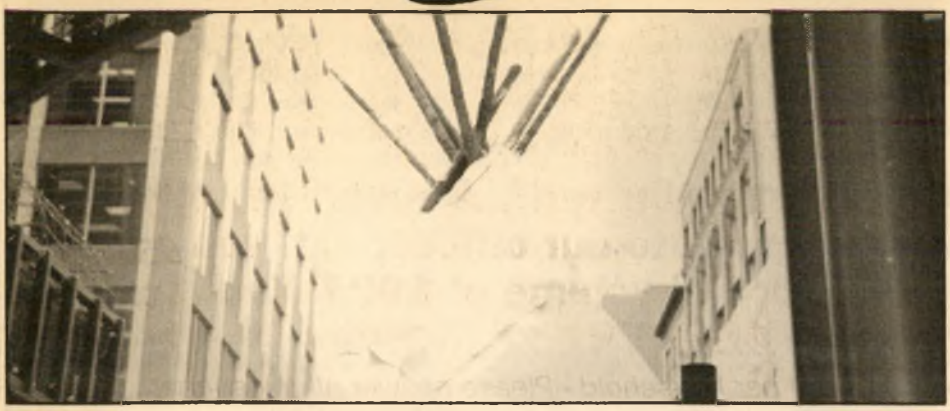

CAROLINE COONISHISH

SIT-IN, BLOCKADES, COURT CASES GREET NEW TAX

A new tax on Natives that took effect Jan. 1 has First Nations groups across the country up in arms.

A group of 27 mostly Native protesters has occupied part of a Revenue Canada building in downtown Toronto for a month against the new income tax. Natives in communities across the country have blockaded roads and bridges in support of the sit-in.

More than 50 Native, anti-poverty, labour and religious organizations are officially supporting the action, including the National Association of Friendship Centres, which is also acting as an unofficial mediator between Revenue Minister David Anderson and the sit-in group.

"We are very encouraged by the endless flow of faxes and phone calls coming in support of this action," said Roger Obonsawin, a spokesman for the protesters.

The Assembly of First Nations, while not in agreement with the occupation, says Natives shouldn't pay the tax and promises to fight the tax in court.

The Grand Council of the Crees is still debating how to respond to the tax, but seems geared up to fight. "A court action is not out of the question," said Grand Council federal relations director Brian Craik.

The tax changes mean Natives who live or conduct most of their work off-reserve are no longer eligible for income-tax exemptions. This applies even if they work for a company registered on a reserve.

Crees working down south for the school board, GCCQ and health board are exempt from the tax because the head offices of those entities are on reserves. But staff at the CreeCo. entities might not be so lucky, since most of their offices are outside reserves. It remains unclear if their Cree staff will be taxed when the Board of Compensation, which is CreeCo.'s parent company, moves its head office to Ouje-Bougoumou.

Curiously, AFN staff received an exemption from the income tax. This raised a few eyebrows especially when AFN National Chief Ovide Mercredi said publicly in late December that he does not support the sit-in and called it "premature."

"It didn't come as any surprise," protest spokeswoman Barbra Nahwegahbow said of Chief Mercredi's remark. "The Aboriginal leadership are really short-sighted and aren't accountable to their constituents."

Nahwegabow spoke with *The Nation* outside the Revenue Canada building, where a permanent camp has been set up since the beginning. One of the many rallies and drum ceremonies that have been organized at the camp was underway. "Today they tax status Indians off-reserve," she said. "Tomorrow, on-reserve."

Revenue Canada spokesman Michel Cleroux wouldn't say how much more money the new tax will bring in. "It's not a matter of bringing in more revenue. It's a response to a need to have a consistent and meaningful application of the Indian Act."

Oddly, the Liberals themselves opposed the same tax when it was first considered by the Mulroney government in 1993. "We believe that Revenue Canada has introduced these changes based on a seriously flawed understanding of the Supreme Court's ruling in the Williams case," says Liberal leader Jean Chretien in a letter he wrote in June 1993. "Indeed, in the Williams case, the Supreme Court was rendering a decision on the issue of the tax status of unemployment benefits—and in doing so cautioned against the very interpretation offered by Revenue Canada."

Chretien then criticized the Tory government's lack of consultation with Natives. "We consider such a unilateral action to be irresponsible," he writes. "You can be assured that a Liberal government would act in a far different manner."

BY ALEX ROSLIN

See page 19 for more details on the new tax rules.

EASTMAIN MINE GETS UNDERWAY

After $10 million of investments, a gold mine at the head of the Eastmain River 250 km northeast of Mistissini is ready to start commercial production.

Work is finished on the mining site and on a 180-km winter road connecting the mine to existing roads. The company operating the mine, MSV Ressources, predicts that trucks will have to make over 300 trips on the winter road just to bring in necessary equipment, including 5 million litres of gasoline and 200,000 kg of explosives. It will take 3,000 truck trips to bring out all the minerals.

MSV Ressources expects to take out 50,000 ounces of gold each year and will operate the mine until 2001. The mine currently employs 75 people.

—Nation staff

NEW CHIEF IN KASHECHEWAN

Oliver Wesley was elected as the new Chief of the Kashechewan First Nation in the community's elections held on Jan. 9. Chief Wesley replaces the outgoing Andrew Reuben, who held the office for the past two years.

Also elected was a Deputy Chief and 10 councillors, including Elder and youth representatives.

Election results for Chief were: Oliver Wesley, 131 votes; Willie Wesley, 79 votes; Jonathan Solomon, 76 votes; and Andrew Reuben, 65 votes.

The Deputy Chief elected was George Hughie with 208 votes.

Also included on the electoral ballot was if the Chief's term should remain at two years or extended to three years. The results favored a three-year term.

"The community felt the Chief's term was short for two years," said Alpheus Wesley, electoral officer. "Because the Chief can't do as much in a short term, that's why that questionnaire was on the ballot."

—Paul M. Rickard

SUPPORT FOR NATIVES IN POLL

A majority of people in Quebec and Canada believe Natives in northern Quebec have the right to remain part of Canada if Quebecers vote to separate, according to a poll published in the *Montreal Gazette*.

In the poll, 54 per cent of Quebecers

BRIEFS CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

and 78 per cent of people in the rest of Canada said Natives can stay in Canada in the event of separation. The poll, conducted Dec. 17-21, is based on interviews with 401 Quebecers and 1,104 people outside the province.

The poll also found that 39 per cent of Quebecers support separation and 51 per cent are against it. Ten per cent are unsure. The survey also found a lot of hostility to Quebec separation in the rest of the country. If Quebec does separate, 59 per cent of people outside Quebec said the federal government should take a "hard-line" approach in negotiations with Quebec.

—Nation staff

Sport hunters on the attack

Non-Natives should boycott Aboriginal-made products and refuse to attend bingos on reserves as long as Natives continue to harvest fish and game "unregulated," says a flyer that has appeared across the country.

The flyer's authors only identify themselves as "concerned sportsmen and citizens." They say that Native harvesting is jeapordizing such "popular species" as deer, moose and pickerel.

What is needed, says the flyer, is "a silent boycott until this situation is resolved." It adds, "Your support is required now!" The flyer is being sent around by fax and appearing as a poster.

—Nation staff

Timmins tourney bigger & bigger

The fourth annual Timmins hockey tourney Dec. 2-4 was bigger than ever this year, drawing 15 teams from the west coast of James Bay and southern towns like Timmins and Calstock.

Nine teams competed in open division play and six more in the newly created old-timers' division. In upcoming years, organizers are thinking about offering women's hockey and broomball.

The James Bay Hawks of Moosonee beat out Kashechewan's James Bay Eagles 4-2 for the championship cup in the open division. In open division consolation play, the Calstock Oji-Crees came out 8-5 over the Peawanuck Hudson Bay Lightning. The Timmins Oldtimers took the old-timers cup in a 3-2 victory over Moosonee. Calstock's Oldtimers won the consolation cup 4-3 against the Kashechewan Mushkegoes.

—Nation staff

Great Whale panel dismissed

Disturbing news on the Great Whale front. In a little-noticed move in mid-December, the Quebec government fired the Great Whale project's "Bureau de soutien," a body of eight scientific experts whose job was to advise five federal and provincial committees studying Great Whale.

These experts were well-versed in all aspects of the project and on the James Bay environment. Their work figured prominently in a recent report from the committees that slammed Hydro-Quebec's plans.

The Grand Council of the Crees is protesting the move because it says the Bureau de soutien is needed so long as Great Whale is still on the table and

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Coming On CBC TV
Maamuitaau

January 21 and 22
Maamuitaau presents the first in a three part series documenting the traditional life of three Mistassini families as they live solely off the land. "Cree Hunters of Mistassini" is a 1972 production made by the National Film Board and translated to Cree. Also a vignette featuring Clifford Georgekish passing his hunting tool skills to younger Cree generations.

January 28 and 29
Part two of "Cree Hunters of Mistassini" is presented on **Maamuitaau** along with a fascinating exploration of extracting traditional medicine from an old tree to alleviate a rash.

Watch **Maamuitaau:**

Fridays	18:00	CBC North and TVNC
	22:00	CBC North and TVNC
Saturdays	06:45	SRC
Sundays	08:00	CBMT
	18:00	SRC

(subject to change)

CBC North

hasn't been cancelled forever.

Now, if the government brings back Great Whale, it will have to put together another Bureau de soutien whose members may not be as familiar with the James Bay Territory or the thousands of pages of environmental studies done by Hydro-Quebec.

Also, in that event the government will have a chance to appoint pro-Great Whale scientists to the Bureau de soutien. "The panel members may just be political hacks," said one Grand Council advisor.

Cree officials are also reacting cautiously to Quebec's plan to hold a public consultation on energy policy this spring. "They could have a consultation that comes out and says hydro-electricity is fine and we should go ahead with Great Whale," said the Grand Council official. "It's just not clear what the government wants to do."

The Grand Council will decide soon if it will participate in the hearings.

—Alex Roslin

Native party forming in Manitoba

Manitoba Natives may have their own political party to vote for in provincial elections this spring.

"Given the results of past elections, it is potentially possible that we could hold a balance of power," said Robert Wavey, executive director of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs.

The assembly has been discussing the possibility of forming a Native party for more than a year. If it forms, the party would have a platform based on traditional Aboriginal values, environmental protection, respect for treaty and First Nations rights, and support for Native-friendly resource and development policies.

With northern ridings composed of 30 to 40-per-cent Aboriginal voters, organizers predict a First Nations party could gain six to 12 seats in the 57-seat Manitoba legislature. If successful, the party could expand to represent Natives across the country.

Chief Jerry Fontaine of the Sagkeen First Nation said in a *Windspeaker* article that Aboriginal interests aren't a priority for any of the existing parties, even though there are four Native MLAs in Manitoba now. "I don't know that we have any influence now," he said. "If you look at it now, who would have thought a regional party (the Bloc Quebecois) would be the official federal opposition? You can exert a lot of influence in a minority government."

—Nation staff

NEIL DIAMOND

Quebecers need alternative: AFN

Ottawa must give Quebecers a constitutional alternative to the status quo or they just might vote to separate from Canada, says Ovide Mercredi, National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations.

"The prime minister I think would be well advised not to gamble with the fate of the country and not to gamble with the fate of our rights as First Nations," Chief Mercredi told reporters at a special AFN meeting in December.

At the meeting, held in Quebec City, 250 Chiefs from across the country gathered to discuss the threat of Quebec sovereignty and pass a resolution denouncing the PQ government's sovereignty plans. The Chiefs said Quebec cannot declare sovereignty without the consent of the province's 11 First Nations. They declared that the PQ's plan to achieve sovereignty is illegal, undemocratic and violates Aboriginal rights. They said it's Ottawa's duty to come to their aid and to devise a constitutional alternative so Quebecers will want to stay in Canada.

Before the meeting, Kahnawake Grand Chief Joe Norton told the *Gazette* that Ottawa is doing "a piss-poor job" in the stand-off with Quebec. "They've got to send a clear message that what Quebec is doing is purely and simply illegal," he said. "Two-thirds of Quebec belongs to Native people—never been ceded, never been defeated, never been taken away from us."

Most First Nations in Quebec have already said they will boycott the government sovereignty commissions that will canvas public opinion on separation this spring.

Prime Minister Chretien and Quebec Liberal Leader Daniel Johnson responded to the Chiefs by saying Canadians are tired of constitutional talk.

—Nation staff

Mexico close to civil war

Mexico was at the brink of civil war last month as relations soured between the government and indigenous Zapatista rebels.

Armed, masked rebel fighters seized dozens of villages and blockaded eight major highways in the southern state of Chiapas on December 19, fuelling an economic crisis that drove the Mexican peso into a nosedive.

The Zapatistas and opposition politicians in Mexico charge that elections last August were riddled with fraud. The Zapatista National Liberation Army had promised that unrest would return to Mexico if the elections were not clean. They had been at peace with government forces for 11 months since they launched a 12-day uprising Jan. 1, 1994. The uprising was launched as a protest against poverty, corruption and attacks on Aboriginal rights in Chiapas, whose population is largely indigenous.

After several weeks of concern that war was imminent in December, the Mexican government agreed to appoint a Roman Catholic negotiator, Samuel Ruiz, trusted by the rebels to head talks on resolving the crisis.

—Nation staff

Gookum Contest

By Dorothy MacLeod - Nicholls

Last year, when my granddaughter represented the Youth Council as a Carnival Princess, I jokingly talked about a Gookum contest.

I woke up 3 a.m. in the morning and these humorous ideas were born. I hope you enjoy them as much as I did thinking them up.

Since the Winter Carnival is almost upon us, it seemed the appropriate time.

Rules

1. You must be a Gookum—going to be doesn't count and *no new* Gookums in the middle of the contest.
Proof: a child who calls you "Gookum."

2. You must have at least one white hair *on your head—do not remove*. Judges will do that as proof it came from your head.

3. You must be at least *10 lbs* over the weight you were when you got married.
A wedding picture will be sufficient proof.

4. You must have proof of the following things: can *cook, sew, mend, heal, make, create, pray* and have faced at least one major crisis situation in your life.
The death of a budgie will not be accepted.

5. You must be in good health and be able to participate in all the contests prepared by the judges for the Gookum elimination.

6. Your escort must be *older* than *you*. Gookums with young handsome escorts will be asked to leave. On the other hand, escorts must be able to help you up the stairs, open doors and preferably know how to drive a vehicle so they can be on-hand for all your events.

7. On the night of the selections, Gookums must wear a traditional dress. *No* mini-skirts or see-through blouses will be allowed. *Nor* blond wigs, false eyelashes, long red fingernails or any restricting clothing that may cause you to *pass out* on stage. Your measurements are not important.

8. Once the judges are selected, *no* Gookum is allowed to invite a judge to her home to sway his judging by means of her cooking. This will be considered cheating.

9. All husbands must be willing to look after themselves while the contest is on. He must encourage you to compete in all events while he cooks, cleans and looks after your home.

10. Husbands, bodyguards or offspring who are caught striking another Gookum with a Tonya stick will cause you to be eliminated from the contest.

11. Contest will be by point system:
5 points - 1st place
4 points - 2nd place
3 points - 3rd place
2 points - 4th place
1 point for all other Gookums
We don't accept any crying Gookums.

Gookum Elimination Contest

1. Arm-wrestling.
I thought of mud-wrestling but we don't want our Gookums to get hurt.

Tips from Gookum Dorothy:
Good ways to build muscles -
- kneading bannock and bread
- chopping wood
- carrying water
- washing by hand on the scrub board

2. Pudding contest:
Biggest - Tastiest - Roundest
Rules:
a) Must be brought to the gym by no more than five grandchildren 8 yrs old and under
b) Parents may supervise how to get it there, but not help
c) It must arrive in one piece with no nibble marks
d) Grandchildren may use a sled or wagon but no skidoos or vehicles allowed
e) Gookums must be willing to cut up and share their puddings with everyone

PIERRE LEMAY

Tips from Gookum Dorothy:
Start making puddings now. Have parents train with grandchildren.

3. Lullaby Baby Contest
a) Each Gookum must have a grandbaby
b) Set up a swing
c) Sing her grandbaby to sleep
d) Proof of grandbaby sleeping will be the judges' final decision
e) If the baby is not asleep after one hour of singing, Gookum may stop singing and receive her point

Tips from Gookum Dorothy:
Line up at least three grandbabies and pick the sleepiest one.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

PIERRE LEMAY

GOOKUM...

Warning: Babies will be checked by judges for any Gookum who adds serum to the baby's milk to cause the baby to be drowsy.

4. Tea-Boiling Contest

a) Each Gookum must snowshoe to the woods, and be able to use a chainsaw to cut down a tree
b) Drag the tree to camp. Chainsaw the tree into firewood. Chop the firewood with an axe
c) Make kindling and start a fire in a camp stove
d) Take a pail and run down to the shore. Cut a hole in the ice for water.
e) Run back to the camp, set a kettle on the stove
f) Make tea when water is boiling
g) Time limit: 30 minutes

Tips from Gookum Dorothy:

Make sure no one follows you into the woods. Start a chainsaw and make a few stabs at the air. Drag a tree already cut from a hidden area. In a secluded place, cut a couple of logs from the tree. Grab the axe and chop a couple of times. Dig for wood already cut—wrapped in white canvas from where you left it a couple of days ago. Run into the tent, from your pocket discretely dig out fire starter chips and place them under your kindling. Run to the shoreline, chop around the small tree that marks your spot from the night before—one thin layer of night ice is better than a solid frozen lake. Run to the tent with your water. Tell the spectators your bra strap broke and you need to be alone to repair it. Dig in your camping supplies for that thermos of hot water you brought. Throw the ice water in the corner of the tent. Place hot water in the kettle. You may even have time to spare.

The judges will decide on all other contests which may be any of the following:

1) Skinning a beaver in 30 minutes
2) Cleaning fish in 10 minutes
3) Plucking and cleaning a goose in 45 minutes
4) Making moccasins in one hour
5) Snowshoe race with one grandchild
6) Breaking balloons by sitting on them

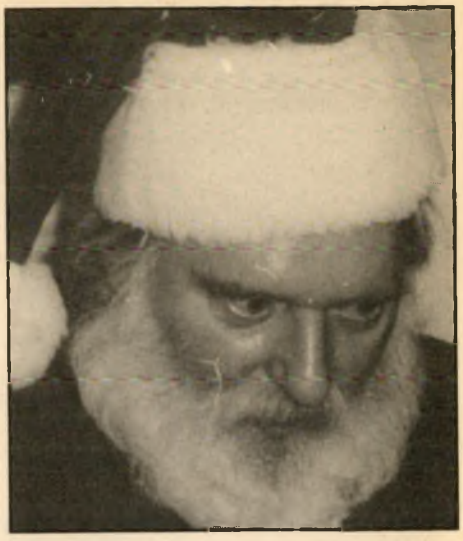
1994/95

WHAT'S IN AND OUT IN '95

To help you in the New Year *The Nation* is graciously providing you a guide for what's in and out for '95.

out	in
OJ Simpson	OJ (the community)
Suicide	Blacking out
Order of the Solar Temple	Order of fries
Great Whale	SM-3
National unity	Aboriginal unity
Clear-cutting	Traplines
Blockades	Occupations
Flesheating diseases	Eating flesh (caribou etc.)
NHL	Tournaments
Spirits	Spirituality
Redskins caps	Raptors caps
AFN	ANC
short, bald and ugly	Vertically, follically and aesthetically challenged
Quebec sovereignty	Cree sovereignty
Hello	Whenchii
Goodbye	Akuuda
Hydro/Nuclear power	Wind power
Charlie Watt (former Makivik president)	Charlie Watts (Rolling Stones drummer)
Residential schools	Universities
Cree	Iiyuu/Iinuuch

1994 in Review



BY WILL NICHOLLS

January '94

Cree Territory

Mexican peasants, mostly Natives, calling themselves Zapatistas seize four towns in the state of Chiapas. Ted Moses, Cree Ambassador to the UN, visits Mexico on a human rights mission.

Revenue Canada says that as of Jan. 1,1995 certain Natives under certain conditions within certain guidelines, who had been formerly tax-exempt, will have to pay income taxes.

Grand Chief Coon Come expresses concern that Crees seem to be outnumbered 3-to-1 in the staff at most Cree entities and businesses. Little Big Horn?

The rest of the world

North American Free Trade Agreement comes into effect.

Davis Inlet boots out RCMP claiming they have no jurisdiction, but finally hand over 12 prisoners on January 2.

Liberal Daniel Johnson is sworn in as Quebec's 25th premier succeeding Robert Bourassa. Liberals still refuse to give up Bourassa's wet dreams for the Cree Territory.

During the coldest days of the year Hydro-Quebec coped with a record energy demand, with power to spare.

Rhode Island decides it doesn't need any more power and says no to Hydro-Quebec offers of power.

Nancy Kerrigan is attacked and injured. Later Tonya Harding admits to conspiring to have her competitor knocked out of the Olympic competition.

February

Cree Territory

Mistissini is raided as the Raid des Braves adds Mistissini to its snowmobile race route. Two Cree teams from Waswanipi and Mistissini place amoung the top four.

Walter Bosum from Ouje-Bougoumou wins amateur class in the 28th annual Chibougamau Rallye.

1st Aboriginal Law Moot is held in Toronto.

Servinor comes under fire for withdrawing large amounts of money under the cash management fund system.

Hydro engineers say they are worried about energy over-capacity and question the need for more dams.

The rest of the world

Police threaten to raid Mohawk reserves over cigarette smuggling.

The 700 Club (Christian Broadcasting Association) launches a new ministry specifically catering to the First Nations peoples.

Ottawa and Quebec drop cigarette prices by $22 a carton in an effort to combat the growing black market. Cigarette tax revenues rise rather than dropping.

March

Cree Territory

Maamuitaau wins journalist award from Nursing Association.

Waswanipi Cree evangelist Billy Ottereyes starts a gospel radio show heard in 18 states and 6 provinces. It is also broadcast to the Cree Territory.

Tufts University sells Hydro bonds.

Lawrence Martin wins Juno in new Aboriginal music category.

Crees get less than needed for housing from Ottawa.

New York Power Authority says it doesn't need Hydro-Quebec's power and kills 800-megawatt deal. Consolidated Edison backs away from a potential $2-billion contract with Hydro.

New controls are implemented for the cash management fund.

The rest of the world

Liberal hatchetman Claude Ryan retires at 69.

Assembly of First Nations starts inquiry into residential schools.

Charlie Watt loses Makivik election.

Quebec Federation of Professional Journalists holds forum at which Quebec Ombudsman Daniel Jacoby says some Quebec editorialists are writing hateful articles against Aboriginal peoples.

April

Cree Territory

Chisasibi residents can finally sit down on a toilet knowing they have adequate sewers.

Cree policing crisis begins when outside funds are cut April 1st.

Makivik signs deal with Hydro-Quebec on Great Whale.

CRA representatives call for resignation of Board of Compensation controller Richard Brouillard.

The rest of the world

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

1994 in Review...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Milton Born With A Tooth found guilty in Alberta on weapons charges because of the Lonefighters' stand against the Oldman River hydro-project.

American Indian Movement charges that one of its founders, Clyde Bellecourt, is a police informer.

May

Cree Territory

Overall a good goose hunt for most Crees. Several rumours had circulated they had taken it out of the freezer, but Don MacLeod, Fredrick "Bleg" Jonah, Freddy Shecapio-Blacksmith, "Domis," David Whiskeyjan, Andrew Moore, George Kudlu and Isaac Rupert fortunately have witnesses to their getting the first goose in Mistissini, Waskaganish, Ouje-Bougoumou, Waswanipi, Eastmain, Nemaska, Wemindji and Whapmagoostui respectively. Who will be the first this year?

Abel Kitchen elected president of the newly formed Aboriginal Business Council of Quebec.

In Mistissini Northern Stores proposes bringing in Kentucky Fried and Pizza Hut if band agrees to foot $1-million renovation bill.

The rest of the world

Nelson Mandela becomes first black president of South Africa.

Palestine and Israel sign an agreement to implement Palestinian self-rule in the Gaza Strip.

June

Cree Territory

Crees and others mourn the loss of Isaiah Awashish. Written by Boyce Richardson, his obituary is the only one of a Cree hunter to appear in a national newspaper, the *Globe and Mail*.

Initiation for pow wow dancers takes place at Fort George Pow Wow.

Minister of Indian Affairs Ron Irwin says Quebec Natives and their territories would be welcome to stay in Canada.

The rest of the world

Saskatchewan Indian Federated College (first university run by Natives in Canada, what will they think of next?) gets permanent facilities.

Vancouver riots when New York Rangers beat the Canucks to take the Stanley Cup on the 14th.

A PQ politician describes government response to Oka as "weak" and suggests that under the PQ, reaction would be swift and harsh if Natives don't honour an independent Quebec.

The O.J. Simpson police freeway chase kick starts the O.J. Simpson saga. Maybe we'll find out if he was guilty this year.

M3i scandal rocks Hydro-Quebec and the Liberal government. Enormous profits are made by prominent Liberals such as Mario Bertrand (Bourassa's former chief of staff). For an initial investment of $20,000, his shares are now reported to be worth $1 million. Politics and business anyone, apparently it pays well.

July

Cree Territory

Moose depletion is a hot topic at Waswanipi's annual CTA meeting. Crees in Waswanipi have been requesting that Quebec look into this problem for years. Quebec wants to limit the Cree hunt despite guarantees in the James Bay Agreement. Quebec worries that limiting non-Native hunting will be seen as showing favouritism to the Crees. Meanwhile in Nemaska non-Native fishermen disturb sturgeon spawning grounds.

Hydro-Quebec's private police force comes under fire. HQ union complaints join those of Natives and environmentalists. Leaked documents show hostility to Natives and environmental groups.

First Cree Nations Gathering takes place in Saskatchewan.

The rest of the world

Earth is glad to be alive after huge chunks of comet Shoemaker-Levy 9 collide with Jupiter.

A Quebec inquiry finds that the Montreal Urban Community police are racist, ill-trained and poorly equipped. RCMP Sikh members are allowed to wear turbans, says the Supreme Court. The Surete du Quebec union says armoured cars should be taken out of storage and used against Mohawks.

Mohawks in Kahnawake say no way to casino plans.

Reform Party steps on Native toes by suggesting they are "children" living off of a rich uncle and comparing reservations to south sea islands. He is invited to visit a few "islands."

August

Cree Territory

Wemindji celebrates 35th anniversary.

The Cree Board of Health and Social Services walks in and takes out five kids from a Val d'Or youth services center.

Eastmain becomes first Cree community to officially recognize the role of the tallyman in band resolutions.

Air Creebec reports it is in the black and looking good.

Hydro-Quebec union says the dams are vulnerable despite Hydro cops' mandate to secure them.

Two jet fighters collide over James Bay. A shame the pilots didn't get a chance to sample Cree hospitality.

The rest of the world

Woodstock II takes place 25 years after the first one. This time the promoters cash in.

PQ candidate Richard Le Hir gets into pre-election hot water over comments that Natives have nothing to teach him and questioning their being civilized in the past.

September

Cree Territory

Ist James Bay Cree Nations Gathering takes place.

There are no police services in Cree communities; police crisis begins.

MoCreebec expelled from Mushkegowuk Council after Chiefs' meeting in Timmins.

PQ separatists inflamed over Grand Chief's visit to Washington and *La Presse* editorialists accuse Coon Come of playing whites off against each other. Divide and conquer anyone? Newly elected Premier Parizeau keeps Native portfolio. Only 21 per cent of Crees actually vote in the provincial election.

The rest of the world

The PQ takes power with 77 seats crushing the Liberals' 44. Ungava riding represented by PQ's Michel Letourneau.

Davis Inlet given respite as Newfoundland Justice Minister calls off forced entry of government officials.

A white buffalo is born and seen as ful-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25

JUST GRAB A-HOLD!

"If you have faith in yourself, the world is all yours."

BY BELLA PETAWABANO

HELLO. My name is Bella Marlene Petawabano, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Petawabano. I'm from Mistissini but attend school in Quebec City. I've been in Quebec for three years now. I've been doing really well in school and my personal life has also been great. The relationship I have with my parents is very special to me. To be honest, life didn't always treat me this well and I do still have problems but I try hard to work them out.

Before I came to Quebec, I attended school in Mistissini and Chibougamau at Maclean Memorial. The two years I spent in Chibougamau were the hardest. I came across a lot of problems. I was failing in all my courses and didn't really seem to care. All I wanted to do was have fun with my friends and act stupid. I often got in trouble with my parents and our relationship was very rocky. I also got in trouble with my teachers and never took them seriously. They tried so hard to help me but I wanted to run my life and didn't accept the help being offered to me. My pride got in the way.

NEIL DIAMOND

Underneath that young, selfish and rebellious person that I was, there was someone completely different: someone who had dreams, someone who wanted to become a special person. However, I didn't have enough confidence in myself to go in the right direction.

It was mostly my parents' idea to send me to school in Quebec and I went along with it. I didn't know what to expect when I got there. The last year that I attended Maclean, I failed my year. I had to repeat the same grade. When I started school again, almost all the students in my grade were at least two years younger than me and they obviously knew that I was older.

A lot of the students asked me how old I was and what I was doing in a lower grade. I didn't really want to tell everyone about my past; I wanted to put it behind me. I wanted a fresh start which was difficult because I was among the very few Native students at the school. I managed to make friends and settle down. A lot of people helped me turn over a new leaf and my parents always stuck by me. I gave it my best shot to be somebody.

Some students still ask about my past, but I just try to make them accept me as I am. To those students (friends) who I do tell about my past, they don't really believe me because they say that they can never picture me as that kind of person. It makes me feel good because I don't have to look back any more. I feel that I was given a second chance to change my life for the better. Soon, I will be graduating and I will continue to reach my goals.

The whole point is this: It doesn't matter how old you are or if you are a bad person; you can still make a difference in your life. Just grab a-hold of things and make them work. Dreams are very special and your dreams can come true if you make them come true. If you have faith in yourself, the world is all yours.

Finally, I'd like to thank my parents, Charlie and Beatrice, for believing in me and sending me in the right direction.

NEWS

Near-record fur sales in North Bay auction

BY PAUL M. RICKARD

An estimated $2.2 million worth of fur pelts were sold in the Dec. 12 fur auction in North Bay, making it one of the most successful sales for the Fur Harvesters Auction.

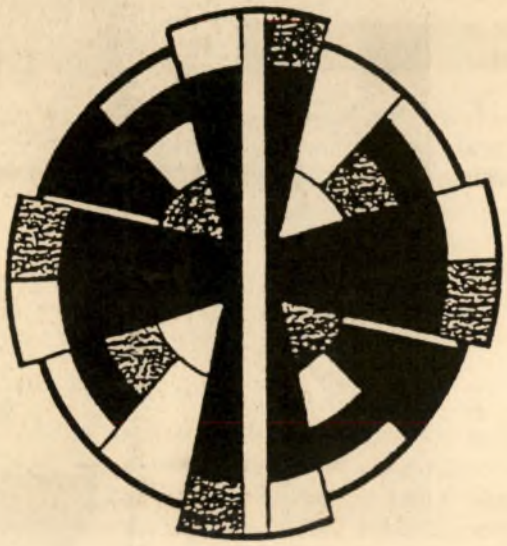
Beaver pelts sold for an average of $30.69, $4 more than the same sale a year ago. In fact, most pelts sold for higher averages prices than last year.

"Beaver and racoon were very strong. Otter has been very good. The more otter we can get, the better," said Bob Watts, president of the auction house.

Fur Harvesters is half Native-owned and it replaced the Ontario Trappers' Association, which collapsed in 1991.

Last year, the December sales were $2.3 million, with over 114,000 pelts being sold, and organizers say they had expected this years sale to be just as successful.

The industry has been rebounding the last few years as rising fur prices encouraged trappers to work their traplines. Beaver in particular bottomed out in 1992 at an average of $14.96 a pelt, half the price paid



in North Bay.

A major factor that kept this year's sale from surpassing last year's was the withdrawal during the auction of about 14,000 mink pelts.

Watts said they held off their mink for the January sale because they suspected the prices might not be that great and North Bay is the first sale of the season.

Rather than sell the mink at cheaper prices, they are waiting to see what happens with the sales in Europe and elsewhere before putting their mink on the market.

"It doesn't happen very often, but we were nervous to be the first ones in on the mink because were waiting to see how prices were going be set in other parts of the world," Watts said. "The other thing we want to do is make sure we get the best prices for the trappers who ship to us."

The only pelt that fell in value was sable, which fell from an average of $52.17 last year to $50.60 this year.

There were about 50 buyers representing about 120 companies at the sale. Watts was pleased with the turn-out, saying there were more buyers from the Far East market with agents from places as far away as Korea and China.

"Also furs are being used for trim for accessories. So people and designers are look-

Diseased beaver sparks fear of epidemic

THE ONTARIO Natural Resources Ministry is warning of a possible tularemia epidemic in beavers after the carcass of a beaver was found with tularemia in the Pickle Lake area.

Tularemia is a plague-like disease which can be fatal to beaver, muskrat and rabbits. The disease is most often spread by water.

Although tularemia is uncommon in humans, it can be transmitted to people through contact with the body fluids of infected animals. The symptoms of tularemia in humans include fever, headaches, chills, sweating, nausea, swollen lymph nodes and eye infections if the bacteria enters the eye.

The ministry has advised Health and Welfare Canada and health officials in northern communities so they are aware of the situation. The area affected includes the Albany and Winisk watersheds.

In 1949, the nearby Severn River watershed was the site of a severe epidemic of tularemia. A less serious outbreak occurred from 1965 to 1967 in the area of Big Trout Lake. No cases were reported for years until scattered outbreaks were identified throughout northwestern Ontario in the recent past.

"If the past history is any indication it appears we may be due for an outbreak," said the Ministry of Natural Resources in a statement in November.

Although the one case has been confirmed, no other incidents have been reported nearby. "As far as the area is concerned, there has been no complaints or any indication of the disease reported," said Peter Small, conservation officer in the MNR's Moosonee office. "But we've made people in the area aware of the situation."

Trappers have been advised of precautions to reduce the risk of infection. They have been advised to wear disposable gloves when handling carcasses, wash pelt tables and knives thoroughly, check the liver for small white spots and if any are found to freeze the carcass as soon as possible, wash any cuts immediately, seek medical attention if symptoms occur, do not consume the carcass if there are internal abnormalities, cook meat from fur-bearing animals thoroughly and do not feed carcasses to domestic animals.

The ministry has also asked trappers to look for signs such as empty beaver houses, declining populations, evidence of carcasses and white spots in the liver of animals. Also, if trappers find any dead beaver or muskrat with small white spots on the liver, they should freeze the carcass and contact the district MNR office.

—Paul M. Rickard

ing at other ways of using the fur than just the fur coat that we're so used to," said Watts. "It's an exciting time right now for the fur industry. You see guys who haven't been trapping for years, they're going back on the trapline."

Watts said it's clear the higher prices mean the public has a renewed interest in furs. "The whole fur industry has been able to counter a lot of the negative advertising of the anti-fur lobby groups. And I think people are starting to recognize that fur is a natural product and feel comfortable with fur again," said Watts.

Weather may have had a negative impact on sales, because mild temperatures in major cities dampered cosumer interest. The weather also hampered the efforts of many trappers who are dependent on snow and snowmobiles for working their traplines. However, there is no indication in the prices that the weather had much impact on the quality of the furs.

"I think we've started off this new season really strong and we expect the prices to continue to remain strong," said Watts.

BOYCE RICHARDSON

A storage tent, sleds, stretching frames at Isaiah Awashish's camp, winter 1972.

North Bay fur auction results, Dec. '94

	Offered	Sold	Top (CDN$)	Average	
BEAVER	29,210	99%	$77.14	$30.69	(up 17% from last year)
SABLE	7,095	100%	74.38	50.60	no difference
MUSKRAT	50,077	100%	6.61	3.17	up 22%
OTTER	1,374	98%	134.99	92.62	up 10%
RACCOON	40,782	95%	34.44	16.36	up 5%
RED FOX	4,100	99%	46.83	30.29	up 25%
COYOTE	5,471	95%	52.34	24.52	no difference
LYNX	165	99%	110.20	75.75	no difference
BLUE FOX - RANCHED	281	95%	118.46	101.21	no comparison
WILD MINK	14,455	*	-	-	
GREY FOX	416	100%	22.04	-	
WEASEL	1,373	100%	6.89	-	
CASTOREUM	3,226	unsold (no interest)	-	-	
SQUIRREL	741	unsold	-	-	
CROSS FOX	120	95%	33.06	-	

* Wild mink was withdrawn due to uncertain price levels.

GRAND COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

G.C.C.Q.

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Grand Council of the Crees (of Quebec)
Grand Conseil des Cris (du Québec)

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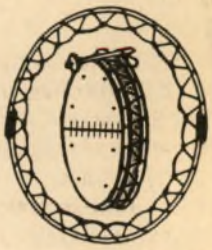
CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY
ADMINISTRATION RÉGIONALE CRIE



C.R.A.
A.R.C.

THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT MUST CANCEL GREAT WHALE RIVER PROJECT ONCE AND FOR ALL

Several months have passed since Premier Parizeau announced that the Great Whale Project was "put on ice."

Since then, Hydro-Quebec has requested that the government continue the environmental review process of the Great Whale project until the public debate on energy is held. The utility wants to see what the result of this debate will bring, and how these results will change the government's energy plan, before removing Great Whale from its construction books. The government has not responded to Hydro-Quebec's request, but maintains that the project is delayed "for a good long time."

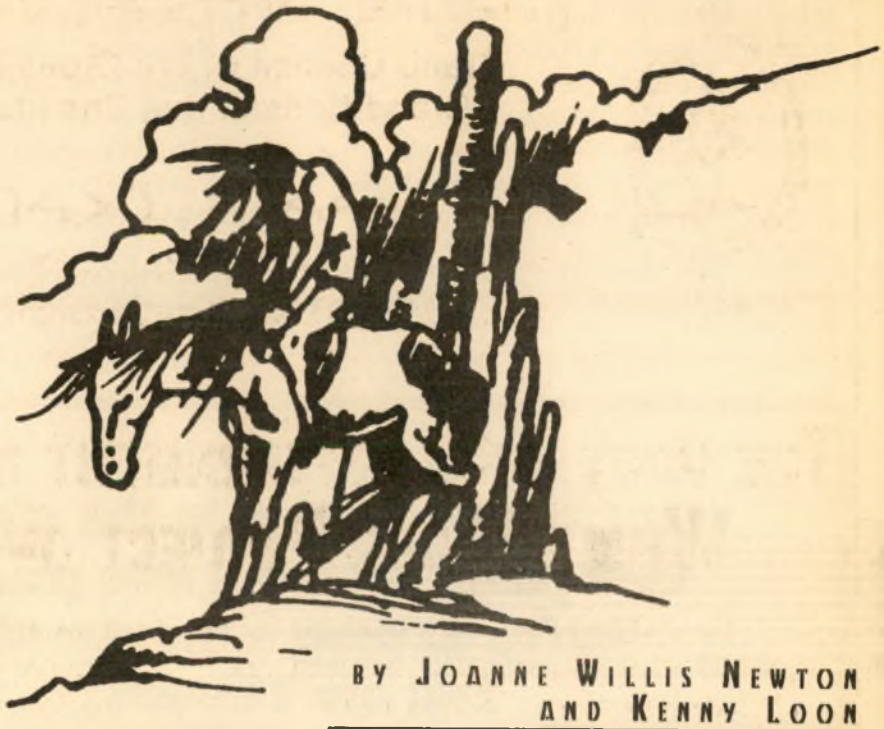
When the Premier announced the freeze of the project, the environmental committees had just concluded an exhaustive analysis of Hydro-quebec's Feasibility Study. These committees issued a report requesting very specific information from Hydro-Quebec regarding the need to build Great Whale, in addition to over 200 questions about the environmental and social impacts of the proposed project which were inadequately described in Hydro-Quebec's Feasibility Study. The information requested by the environmental committees would have effectively delayed the Great Whale project several years.

The announcement of delaying the project is a shrewd decision of the Parizeau government. However, it would be foolish for the Crees to relax their guard at the promises of a newly elected politician. The Crees have a lot of experience with empty promises made by Premiers and Ministers. Premier Parizeau's words need to be put into action.

The Great Whale project may well be dead, but the Crees need concrete proof, such as Hydro-Quebec withdrawing it from the authorization and planning process. This and the dismantling of the environment review process will mean that the project cannot be built at this time or in the forseeable future.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

New taxation scheme for Indians



BY JOANNE WILLIS NEWTON AND KENNY LOON

THE current Indian occupation of Revenue Canada offices in Toronto stems from proposed taxation changes which would bring an end to certain tax exemptions enjoyed by Indians.

Tax exemptions for Indians have existed in one form or another since before Confederation.

Current tax exemptions are found in federal legislation, namely the Indian Act and in the Cree-Naskapi (of Quebec) Act. These acts create an exemption for Indians or Bands from taxation on land or personal property situated on a reserve or Category IA or IA-N lands.

The term "personal property" includes income. Therefore, the income of an Indian or Band is exempt from taxation if the income is situated on a reserve or Category IA or IA-N lands. The test for determining whether income came from a reserve is less clear. And it is this ambiguity which has given rise to the current controversy.

In 1983 the Supreme Court of Canada dealt with the issue in the case of *Nowegijick v. Minister of National Revenue*, which involved an Indian employed by a Band-owned corporation to perform work at an off-reserve location. The Supreme Court of Canada decided that for tax purposes, Nowegijick's employment income was held to be tax exempt because his employer, the Band-owned corporation, was located on-reserve, even though he had performed the work off-reserve.

As a result of the *Nowegijick* decision, Revenue Canada allowed Indian employees of reserve-based employers to claim a tax exemption on their employment income, regardless of where the employee resided or where the work was performed.

However, in 1992 the Supreme Court heard the case of *Williams v. Canada* and rendered a decision which cast some uncertainty over the test developed in *Nowegijick*. *Williams* involved the taxation of unemployment insurance benefits which were paid to an on-reserve Indian who had worked and been paid on the reserve.

The Supreme Court indicated that the residence of the employer is not necessarily determinative of whether income is situated on a reserve. One must consider the factors connecting the income to a reserve. Other factors which the court identified are: the residence of the employee, the place where the work is performed and the place where wages are paid.

The *Williams* case dealt specifically with the taxability of unemployment insurance benefits. However, Revenue Canada interpreted the decision to apply also to employment income, even though the Supreme Court expressly refrained from commenting on what the proper test for determining the location of employment income would be.

In a letter dated Dec. 29, 1992, Revenue Canada informed Native organizations that the principal factor connecting income to a reserve would now be where the duties are carried out. As a result, an Indian's employment income would no longer be exempt from taxation simply because their employer is based on-reserve. This new policy was to take effect this month.

To illustrate how the proposed changes could affect a Cree individual, consider the situation of a person who works for Air Creebec. Unlike the Grand Council of the Crees or the Cree School Board, Air Creebec's main administrative office is not on Category IA or IA-N lands. So Cree employees at Air Creebec face the prospect of having to pay income tax.

This may change once the Board of Compensation, which owns Air Creebec through CreeCo., moves its head office to Ouje-Bougoumou this year.

The public relations branch of Revenue Canada claims that no final decision has been made as to whether these proposed changes will be implemented. So what consequences, if any, the *Williams* decision will have on taxation policy remain to be seen. Perhaps protests like the one in Toronto will be successful in making Revenue Canada rethink its position.

Joanne is a 1992 Cree graduate of the University of Ottawa law school. She recently completed her bar exams and will become a member of the Ontario Bar next month.

Kenny graduated from the University of Ottawa common law program in 1993 and is now articling with an Ottawa law firm.

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HELP THE NATION HELP YOU!!

Fill out the READER'S POLL on PAGE 6

AND WIN A 1994 BOUND VOLUME

DRAW: FEB. 28

Fort George Island

The way it was and maybe should have remained

BY PIERRE LEMAY

I have always experienced a special feeling with people I have encountered living off an island. As the Jamaican celebration for tourists song goes, "Come to my island, you never want to leave."

And Fort George, as it was called and still is on certain 3-D versions of the world globe, was certainly no exception. Quite to the contrary. The first time I set foot there was in 1968. Attending Laval University that year (I was 17 or not so old), majoring in administration, I was given the assignment in my macro-economy course of estimating the level of efficiency of a specific federal department.

I was given a prime choice of departments, as it turned out to be Indian "Affairs." A Club Med for civil servants, as for every $1.00 of subsidy, 99 cents went into administrative costs, the penny remaining being the only true benefit to Natives.

In Fort George for the first time, I was myself quite impressed that in my own province live these forgotten people (as they were labelled then by a squadron of anthropologists).

At the end of World War II there were only 600 Crees left on the island from the hardship years of rationing war-time measures. Of these, the majority weren't aware of the war's existence until after the fact. It had already been several decades that education had been imposed on the children under the care of the church mission.

The first day of school was held at St-Philip's Mission in 1907. The mission was one of several disseminated throughout the vast dioceses of the land of Rupert, which extended from Ungava Bay to the Canadian Rockies along with Hudson's Bay Co. Outposts such as Moose Factory and the surrounding of Winnipeg.

The first Archibishop of Rupert, David Anderson, paddled for 26 days to reach Moose Factory from Red River (southern Ontario). Reverend Watkins was the first member of the clergy to set foot in Fort George. It turned out he wasn't the first Christian missionary though, as he discovered the local Hudson's Bay manager's wife had been rather busy preparing people to be either baptised or married.

PIERRE LEMAY

The first baptism was celebrated by Rev. Watkins on Oct. 24th, 1852. He remained there for the next five years. Familiarizing himself with the Cree language, he translated parts of the New Testament and this created the first Cree dictionary (in 1865), which even revised later still remains the basic modern Cree syllabex.

Twenty one years went by without a priest following Watkins' departure. Then Fort George welcomed Rev. Thomas, an Anglican priest who remained only a few weeks.

He was quite an exceptional individual, having been consecrated to priesthood in England. He snowshoed from Moose Factory to Great Whale, a 400-mile distance, sleeping under the stars at temperatures averaging -37°.

Living in Fort George in 1971 certainly had a special "cachet," as there was neither electricity nor running water. The following years spent there left me filled with dear memories.

A few houses are left standing following the relocation of the town more than a decade ago. The one we were occupying was graciously offered to us by Clifford Dick along with an addition a dearly departed friend, Gordon Bates, helped me build. Both are still intact.

Every summer a gathering is held to commemorate the good old days of living off an island that stands as a monument to an old way of life. To each and all, I hope you had a very Merry Christmas and wish you a Happy New Year.

NEWS

CREES NOT CONSULTED IN SOCIAL REFORM

THE LIBERAL government's reform of Canada's social safety net could hit Crees hard, says the Grand Council.

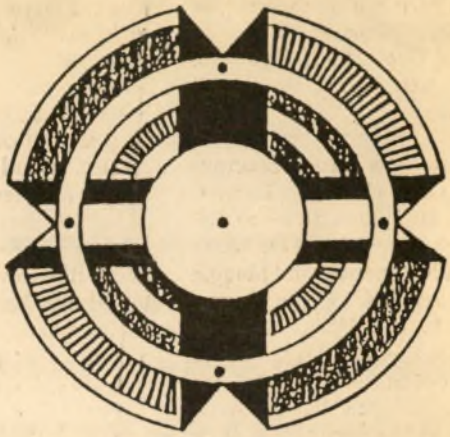
"The Cree economy is very dependent on the programs they're talking about," said Brian Craik, the Grand Council's federal relations director. "Federal and provincial subsidies make up the vast majority of what Crees earn."

The reform, announced by Ottawa last year, is intended to shave billions of dollars in government spending in areas like unemployment insurance, welfare, education, job training and health care. The government has held hearings into the reform across the country, but only a limited number of presentations have been allowed in each city and these are usually very short.

Aboriginal groups like the Assembly of First Nations, the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada and the Native Women's Association of Canada have denounced the hearings for excluding First Nations input.

Craik said Crees have been told virtually nothing about how the reform will affect them. "It's just all speculation right now," he said. "There haven't been real consultations."

Education funding is one of the biggest concerns. Although education is a provincial matter, Ottawa is considering making deep cuts to education-related transfer payments to the provinces. That means tuition fees could rise and Quebec may try to pass some of the rising costs on to the Cree School Board.



But school board chairman Paul Gull said this would be a violation of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement. Under the agreement, Crees don't have to pay for tuition fees. "We are avoiding the process because we feel we already have guarantees in the James Bay Agreement," said Gull. "It is up to the Grand Council to protect these rights."

Other major areas where Crees could see big spending cuts are housing, economic development and health care. In the housing file, one government proposal would see a 65-per-cent cutback in subsidies to housing in Native communities.

—*Alex Roslin*

COMICS

Garfield ® by Jim Davis

O.K. GARFIELD, PRETEND I'M A MOUSE
I'M RUNNING ACROSS THE ROOM. WHAT DO YOU DO?
TAKE ME TO YOUR CHEESE
JIM DAVIS 1-13
© 1995 PAWS, INC. Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate
NEXT YEAR I RESOLVE TO GROW CHEST HAIR!
AHEM
THAT'S "FUR"
JIM DAVIS 12-28
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CLASSIFIEDS

100-BIRTHS

Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Robert Baribeau on the birth of their son: Henri Joe. Born on 24th of Dec. 1994. Good job buddy. Best wishes fr: Jerry & Bedabin

---

Nothing was more precious than seeing Zachary Bennett Mianscum Spencer arrive on that cold February 1st, 1994. Proud parents Jeff Spencer and Maggie Mianscum couldn't wait to show off their 9 1/2 lb bundle of joy. Grandparents Charles & Shirley Spencer of Bayfield, Ontario and Francois & Lizzie Mianscum of Mistissini, Quebec wish Zachary a healthy and prosperous life.

101-BIRTHDAYS

Birthday wish to Darren McLeod, 18 yrs old, on Dec. 10th from Mom & Dad & Bros.

Thinking of you on your birthday Tina Pet. Jan 10, 1995. With a lot of love & kisses. From: Jerry & your son Bedabin. xxxooo

---

I wish to express my love to a special woman on her birthday, my wife Barbara (Nov. 26). Happy Birthday and I love you, always from me, Chiweebamakan Clarence

---

Happy Birthday to Elden Sam on December 21. I hope your 1st birthday will be a great one. Love ya! Fr. your girlfriend Jib. xoxox

---

I would like to wish a very happy birthday to Bernard Stewart on Dec. 30 and also Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Good luck in 1995 from your buddy in Waterloo

---

We would like to celebrate the birthdays of our friends Valerie on Dec. 10 and Karen on Dec. 26. Alright 2 parties. Bonus! From Jes. & Pat. O.K. Party!!

We'd like to wish a very happy birthday to Carla Edwards on Dec. 24 and to Stephan Mettaweskum on Dec. 19. Be good. Santa's coming. Love, John & Diane

---

I would like to wish a very happy birthday to my oldest brother Luke who is a quarter of a century old on Jan. 7/95. Love your sis "Elvisa"

This birthday wish goes out to Pamela Fawn MacLeod. Time to start buying the wrinkle cream eh?? Love Jen. (my treat this time??)

Happy Birthday to our son Mason Cooper on December 31. We love you so much from parents Linda and Gary Cooper, North Bay, Ont. and Happy Birthday to our Dad Sidney Trapper on Jan 21. From Lucy & Linda

---

Happy Birthday to a special girl on Jan. 15/95. I wish I could be there on your big day, love always Joweesh xoxoxoxo I miss you!

Happy 3rd Birthday to our nephew Tino Noel on Dec. 17, also wishing him a very Merry Christmas. We love you. Love & prayers, Robert & Caroline, and Family. (Mist.)

Happy 3rd Birthday to my sweet little cousin Tino Noel on Dec. 17, hope all your wishes come true. I love you so much, I miss your big head. Love your cousin Sally. (Mist.)

Birthday greetings to my nephew Stephan, turning 1 on Dec. 4th and to my sister, Beatrice, on Dec. 7th from Wemindji. I miss ya both & the rest of the gang. Lots of love from Auntie & sis Norma Jean

---

Wishing a Happy Birthday to our cousins and neices and nephew Joyce (Dec. 22), Gloria (Dec. 26) and Russell (Dec. 29). Lots of love from Virginia, Eveleen and Suzanne

---

We would like to wish a Happy Birthday & Merry Christmas to our grandson Murray Blackned (Dec. 25/94). With lots of love Grandpa & Grandma Blackned in Waskaganish.

MORE CLASSIFIEDS ON PAGE 25

the Nation's CLASSIFIEDS ORDER FORM

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Happy New Year 1995!

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Chisasibi Minor Hockey & Broomball Tournament

S T A N D I N G S

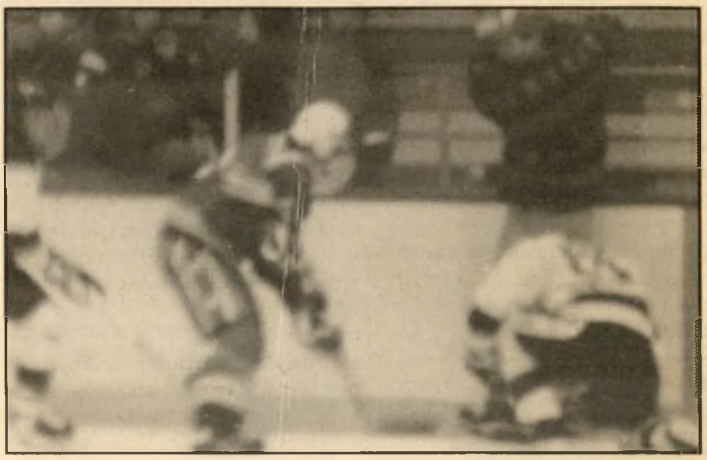
D E C E M B E R 2 7 – 3 0
1 9 9 4

NOVICE BROOMBALL
Chisasibi I - 1st place
Chisasibi II - 2nd place

NOVICE HOCKEY
Waskaganish - 1st place
L'Il Warriors - 2nd place
L'Il Hunters - 3rd place

PEE-WEE BROOMBALL
Wemindji - 1st place
Chee Bee Contractors - 2nd place
Chisasibi II - 3rd place

PEE-WEE HOCKEY
Waskaganish - 1st place
Chee Bee Contractors - 2nd place
Wemindji - 3rd place



PIERRE LEMAY

MIDGET BROOMBALL
Waskaganish - 1st place
Chisasibi Sharks - 2nd place

MIDGET BROOMBALL
Best Forward - Maryann Gilpin (Wask.)
- April Moar (Sharks)
- Doreen Fireman (Sharks)
Best Defense - Joanne Pash (Sharks)
- Mary Jane Salt (Wask.)
Best Goalie - Beverly Cox (Sharks)
Top Scorer - Edith Hester (Wask.)
MVP - Louise Hester (Wask.)

PEE-WEE HOCKEY
Best Forward - Ryan Weistche (Wask.)
- Bertie John Georgekish (Wemindji)
- Charly Wash (Chee Bee Contractors)
Best Defense - Myles Cowboy (Wask.)
- Lloyd Herodier (Chee Bee Contractors)
Best Goalie - Andrew Biron (Wemindji)
Top Scorer - Ryan Weistche (Wask.)
MVP - Reginald Gilpin (Chee Bee Contractors)

MIDGET HOCKEY
Best Forward - Isaac Swallow (Future Relics)
- Gary Lee Hester (Wask.)
- Curtis Bosum (Mistissini)
Best Defense - Abel Namagoose (Wask.)
- Joey Blacksmith (Waswanipi)
Best Goalie - David Jolly (Waswanipi)
Top Scorer - Darryl Wash (Future Relics)
MVP - George Swallow (Future Relics)

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CLASSIFIEDS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

I would like to wish a Happy 1st Birthday to my adorable, charming, loving daughter Joannye Caron-Neeposh on December 15, 1994. Love always daddy

We would like to wish a Happy 1st Birthday to our niece, cousin, grand-daughter Joannye Caron-Neeposh on Dec. 15, 1994 who's in Val d'Or, with lots of love and kisses, the Neeposh family - Nemaska

Happy 13th Birthday to Eric Gull on Dec. 23rd. We love you and always will. Love, hugs & kisses, Grandma, Shasha & Mom. xoxxoo

Happy 1st Birthday to Justin Philip Moses on Dec. 17th from grandma & grandpa Moses, uncle Anthony & aunt Kathy xo

Happy Birthday to my Mom Madeleine Nakogee (Dec. 11) and to William Saganash (Dec. 23). With all my love, Angel.

We would like to send a first birthday wish to our daughter Amelia Jenny Dixon on Dec. 14, 1994. Lots of hugs & kisses to you. From mom & dad and sister Renee Dixon. xoxoxoxoxox We love you a lot xx

Happy Birthday to my husband Tommy on December 12, hope you enjoy your day. All my love Rosie. Also a Happy Birthday to my sister-in-law Madeleine in Mistissini. Enjoy your day!

Happy sweet sixteenth birthday to my Auntie April Pachanos on January 2, love always Randall "Jaow-Jou"

Happy 2nd Birthday to my lovely niece Trisha Tomatuk on December 11. With love from Dorothy T.

Happy 2nd Birthday to my daughter Trisha Tomatuk on December 11. I love you so much, lots of love from your mom Phyllis

Happy 9th Birthday to our daughter Vanessa Petawabano on Dec. 8. Love always mom & dad

Happy Birthday to my husband Henry Petawabano on Dec. 20. I love you, Janie

We want to wish a very happy birthday to my sister Elizabeth Dick (Sr.) Dec. 05, with lot 'n' lots of love. Vera, Germain, Duane, Jonathan & Sebastien

Betsie, hope you'll have a good time! Love ya! Fr. a friend in Chisasibi Elizabeth Matches P.S. take care and give Paul a kiss and hug

I want to wish a Happy Birthday to my cousin Betsy Matches who is in Montreal and who will be celebrating her birthday on Nov. 21st.

Happy 2nd Birthday to Shannon Tina MacLeod on Dec. 28. Love from your cousins Alexandria and Jaimee MacLeod (Mist.)

We'd like to wish our son Jason R. Happy 2nd Birthday on Nov. 23. And to our daughter Gianna Happy 4th Birthday on Dec. 26. With lots of love from Mom and Dad in Ouje-Bougoumou.

Happy belated birthday wishes to my dear daughter Melissa on December 02. We miss you. See you soon, love: mom xoxo

Happy Birthday to our dad William Saganash on Dec. 23 and to Grandma Nakogee on Dec. 11 with lots of love, hugs and kisses Shannon and Trevor

We wanna wish a Happy belated Birthday to our wonderful mother Janie Matches of Chisasibi Dec. 12. From your sons & daughters. We love you. xxooxo

Happy belated Birthday to Grandma Janie Matches Dec. 12. You are a Special Grandma. We love you so much. From Love always your Grandchildren hugs & kisses

Happy Birthday to our grandfather who will be 56 on December 16. From your grandsons in Ouje-Bougoumou, love always Lance & Tyson xoxoxo

MORE CLASSIFIEDS ON PAGE 26

1994/95

1994 in Review...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

filling a Sioux prophecy of the arrival of a new era.

The baseball season is cancelled officially. The NHL mimics the baseball season as the players are locked out despite their willingness to play while negotiating.

October

Cree Territory

James O'Reilly resigns as Cree general legal counsel.

PQ offers Natives possibility of resource royalties.

The rest of the world

The Solar Temple commits mass suicide and murder of its own members. The temple had a few tie-ins with Hydro-Quebec through membership and employee motivation seminars.

Lady Di and Prince Charles release biographies revealing "all" that happened in their turbulent marriage. Scotties softies for those tears anyone?

November

Cree Territory

Grand Chief Coon Come gets environmental award and Hydro-Quebec calls it a "victory for propaganda and for disinformation."

Police agreement quietly signed by mail after Crees refuse to do so in proposed public ceremony.

Quebec Native Women's Association celebrates 20th anniversary.

Four of the five committees studying the Hydro-Quebec Great Whale study say it is flawed and recommend over 300 changes to this $256-million report.

On the lighter side PQ Premier Jacques Parizeau says publicly that the Great Whale project is put on hold indefinitely. Crees and environmentalists wary but jubilant.

The rest of the world

Quebec misses out on the $9 billion in contracts that the Team Canada trade mission brings back from China when Premier Parizeau boycotts the trip.

December

Cree Territory

The Nation celebrates one year of existence and expands to include the west coast of James Bay.

Ouje-Bougoumou sees work begun on a new phone system.

Atomic Energy Board of Canada admits Cree officials weren't warned of danger of lights that saw 16 west coast Cree children exposed to radiation in Kashechewan.

The rest of the world

Federal government admits it may cut off funds to Native Friendship Centers, putting 1,800 jobs in jeopardy.

Federal Bloc Quebecois Leader Lucian Bouchard loses his leg to a flesh-eating virus.

Premier Jacques Parizeau introduces a bill declaring Quebec a sovereign country that includes 17 steps on how to achieve independence. Say what... is the cart in front of the horse?

CLASSIFIEDS

I would like to wish a belated Happy Birthday to my cousin & my friend Caroline Matthew Jan. 7. From your friend Serena

---

We want to wish a wonderful birthday to: Charlene Mianscum (January 18). Be good, be happy, do your best & you will succeed in life. (That's a promise.) We love you: from mom & bro. Lesley M.

Big birthday kisses to our grandson Robyn Diamond on Dec. 26. Happy 2nd B-day! Hope Santa was good to you. Love Googoo Louise and Moojoo George Diamond

---

We would like to wish a happy first birthday to Nurrea Mekwin Coon which will be on Jan. 9, 1995. We love you very much. Love always, Grandma & Grandpa Coon (Mist.) xoxo

---

Happy 24th Birthday to Ricky Coon on Jan. 11, 1995. We care and love you very much son. Love mom and dad. Thomas and Josephine Coon.

Happy Birthday to our proud son Jerry Coon on Jan. 8, 1995. Thank you for making this past Christmas holiday a special one for our family. We love you, mom & dad. Tom & Josephine Coon.

Happy Birthday to our uncle Jerry on Jan. 18 with lots of hugs and kisses fr. your neices Ariel and Alexandrea xoxo

---

Happy Belated Birthday to our son Clifford Loon who celebrated his 3rd birthday on December 22, 1994. WHEW! So long terrible two's, what's next terrible three's!! Hug 'n kisses: mom, dad & Jannah, North Bay, Ont.

Happy Birthday to Redfern Blueboy on Jan. 22, 1995 (Wask.) All my love, Sheila

---

To: our sister "Keena" Happy Birthday on Dec. 24 and Merry Christmas and many more! Love you, sis: Mary Jane, Jacleen

---

Happy 2nd Birthday to our cute, sweet, adorable son Kyle on Feb. 2. We love you so much, having you has brought us so much laughter & joy. With lots of love, hugs & kisses. Dad Adrian & Mom Eleanor.

Happy 2nd Birthday to my sweet & cute grandson, Kyle Alexander Gilpin. Happy Birthday & many more to come. With love, grandma Dorothy

---

Happy Birthday to cousin Kyle Loon in North Bay, Ont. who turns 3 on Jan. 16 '95. Love from: Jannah & Clifford Loon

---

Hey sis - So, how old are ya! Hope you enjoy your once a year kinda thing (b-day) Jan. 23 '95. Happy Birthday, Kyla Loon! Love: Jeanette xoxo

---

Happy Birthday to my grandmother Margaret Martinhunter on Jan. 11 and many more to come. May your birthday be special like you. From grandson. P.S. Eric'sh I love you

---

We wanna wish a very special 1st birthday to Murrea Meekwin on Jan. 9. You are getting bigger and sweeter each day! Love always Ricky, Tammy & girls

---

We wanna wish a Happy 1st Birthday to our sweet little daughter Alexandrea Brittany. With lots of hugs and kisses. Love always mommy, daddy and big sis Ariel

---

Happy Birthday to Bobby Allan Diamond on January 5, 1995 (Wask.) With many happy returns. Fr: Jimmy, Peggy, Trishena & Boys

---

A birthday wish to our aunt Paula who celebrated her birthday on Jan. 12. We love you and we also miss you a lot. Love always Ariel and Alexandrea oxox

---

I wish to express my love to a very special man on his birthday, my husband Ricky (Jan. 11). Happy Birthday and I love you very much. From your wife Tammy xoxoxox

---

Happy Belated Birthday to Beverly Husky in North Bay, Ont. who turned 19 on January 5 '95. Love: Jannah & Clifford Loon xox

---

We wanna wish a Happy Birthday to our daddy, who celebrated his day on Jan. 11. You're very special to us, who would want a better daddy? We love you very much, your daughters Ariel and Alexandrea

---

Happy Birthday to our breatiful daughter Amanda Marie Anne Jennifer Capassissit 1 on Jan. 13. Love Mom & Dad, hugs & kisses

103-ANNIVERSARIES

Happy 5th Anniversary to my husband James MacLeod on Dec. 29. Love Lillian (Mist.) xoxo

104-GRADUATIONS

Congratulations to Tommy Rabbitskin on the completion of his course - integrated land management. We are proud of you, all our love, wife & children xoxo

300-PERSONALS

I would like to wish a big hearty "ho-ho-ho" to my family in Mist. Thanks for being there everytime (which is almost all the time). Love Jen.

Two Belgian teenagers are looking for Native penpals. Their addresses: Annelie De Meulenaere, 15 years old, at: Passtraat 420, B-9100 St. Niklaas, Belgium, or to Johan Van Hecke, 18 years old, at: A. Rodenbachstraat 33, B-9100 St. Niklaas, Belgium.

We would like to wish a Merry X-mas & a Prosperous New Year to our friends: Mr. & Mrs. Smally Petawabano (Mist.), Mr. & Mrs. Edward Rabbitskin (Mist.) and Lillian & Mario Monger (Chisasibi). From: Katherine, Emily-Jane, Hilda & Eric Gull (Waswanipi)

Congratulations to Paul Pachanos & Nichole Melancon for the birth of their beautiful daughter Dawn-Rayne born on Nov. 26. All our love and may the Creator bless you, from everyone at 105 Kannammeskow Rd. in Chisasibi xoxo

---

I want the whole world to know that my grandparents are the best (Mist.) I'll be thinking of you everyday of my Christmas holidays in Toronto & Bayfield. Don't worry, grandpa. I'll make a video and lots, lots of pictures and grandma, think of it this way, no one will be there to rearrange your tree, twice a day... but you'll still miss me a lot! Right. Love you so much!! Zachary Mianscum-Stewart

---

To Rodney Pet. in Mist. Thinking of you, missing you, forever loving you. Always, Viola. (Hope you have a Merry Christmas)

500-MISCELLANEOUS

Merry Christmas to my grandparents Sam & Maryann and to my aunties and my uncle Glass Joe. Also to my great-grands Charlotte & Sam. I love you. See you soon, love Napinoskum in Kahnawake.

Best wishes for the New Year to Billy, Jeannie, Tanita, Tyson and also to Morley, Mary and family in Chisasibi. From family & friends, Moose Factory, Ont.

We would like to wish a very Merry Xmas to our family Dixon & family Mianscum and to James & Charlotte in North Bay. And also to you Maria & Frances Couchees in Montreal. With lots of love, fr: Rene, Mary & girls xxoo

---

Merry Christmas to everyone in all the nine communities of the Crees. May the Good Lord bless and keep each and every one of you and best wishes for the coming New Year. From R. F. Visitor & Family

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Yo Sport, Little buddy... wishing you a Blast on your B-day, Alexandra, A.k.a Valentina Kurelitch, but known to most as the one at the News Desk at *the Nation*. Yo, yo!, Alex Roslin, YOU!! Happy happy on January 23.

A special Thanks to Gookum & Joomshum in Chisasibi, Thank you for everything. You can watch TV now. From your Granddaughter Mich-Minash. p.s. I miss you, Alex.

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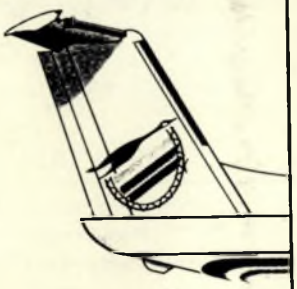

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For more information on the race, call Richard Guay at (819) 755-DEFI.

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